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ORIGINAL

August 23, 2004

Ms. Marlene H. Dorch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 W. 12th Street Washington, D.C. 20554

RE:

Written Ex Parte Filing

C. C. Docket 99-273

Dear Ms. Dorch:

At the annual meeting of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC) held in Washington, D.C. last March, the body adopted a resolution urging the FCC to take prompt action to promote Directory Assistance competition.

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 calls for competition in all telecommunications markets yet Directory Assistance has seen only rising prices and stagnant service. The retail DA market has been held virtually immune from competition because the incumbent provider holds the "411" number. Dialing parity is a necessary prerequisite for genuine competition and that includes the DA market.

Please include me in those state commissioners urging prompt FCC action in the retail directory assistance market.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Moline

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Chair

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